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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
CHEN, SHIN HON	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2431	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/554,168	HARDER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SHIN-HON CHEN	2431	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 October 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-10 and 12* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *11 and 13-21* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *21 October 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-21 have been examined.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 11 and 13-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Otsuki U.S. Pat. No. 5029080 (hereinafter Otuski).

5. As per claim 1, Otsuki discloses a method for processing data, characterized in that a Petri net is encoded (Otsuki: column 1 lines 46-69: designing the paths and encode it in the system), written into a memory and read and performed from that memory by at least one instance, wherein transitions of the Petri net read from at least one tape and/or write on at least one tape symbols or symbol strings, with the aid of at least one head (Otsuki: column 1 line 56 – column 2 line 9: the system determines the transitions of the Petri net and restricts workflow).

6. As per claim 2, Otsuki discloses the method according to claim 1. Otsuki further discloses characterized in that the Petri net, the head or the heads and the tape or the tapes form a universal Turing machine (Otsuki: column 3 lines 19-57).

7. As per claim 3, Otsuki discloses the method according to claim 1. Otsuki further discloses that at least one second Petri net, in particular encoded with the properties of the Petri net described in claim 1, is written into a memory and is read and executed from this memory by at least one instance, wherein transitions of each Petri net can send symbols or symbol strings via at least one optionally existing channel, which can be received by transitions of other Petri nets via this channel or these channels (Otsuki: column 3 lines 39-57).

8. As per claim 4, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 1. Otsuki further discloses that a Petri net has access to a marker- or state transition table, respectively, and optionally to at least one output table or a combination of both, and by doing so determines a derived marker or a derived state, respectively, and optionally at least one output, depending from the marker and the state, respectively, and optionally depending from an optionally existing input (Otsuki: figure 2A).

9. As per claim 5, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 4. Otsuki further discloses that the switching of the transitions of a Petri net is performed by a processor, wherein the processor has at least one processor instruction, which processes the marker- or state transition table,

respectively, and optionally at least one output table or a combination of both as the operands (Otsuki: figure 2A).

10. As per claim 6, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 3. Otsuki further discloses that a co-operation of Petri nets constitutes a Turing machine (Otsuki: column 3 lines 19-57.

11. As per claim 7, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 3. Otsuki further discloses that at least a part of a program is translated into a Petri net or a co-operation of Petri nets (Otsuki: column 1 line 56 – column 2 line 9 and figure 2A).

12. As per claim 8, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 3. Otsuki further discloses that the Petri nets are executed by a composition instruction, wherein a third Petri net, equivalent to the co-operating first and second Petri nets with respect to the external input/output behaviour, except output delays, is constituted with the aid of the first and second Petri net (Otsuki: figure 2A).

13. As per claim 9, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 1. Otsuki further discloses Method for processing data, except public key encryption methods based on the composition of finite automates, said method being in connection with claim 1 in particular, and characterized in that data-processing, co-operating nets are composed, the composition result is encoded, written into a memory and read and executed from this memory by at least one instance, wherein the

composition result is a net which is equivalent to its components with respect to the external input/output behaviour, except output delays (Otsuki: column 3 lines 19-57).

14. As per claim 10, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 1. Otsuki further discloses that the components and the composition result are Petri nets, wherein the transitions of the components can receive and send symbols or symbol strings via optionally existing channels (Otsuki: column 3 lines 39-57).

15. As per claim 12, Otsuki discloses the method of claim 9. Otsuki further discloses that the data-processing nets are constituted by a translation of algorithms (Otsuki: column 1 lines 35-64).

Conclusion

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Olson et al. U.S. Pat. No. 7478233 discloses prevention of software tampering.

Gutherry U.S. Pat. No. 6779112 discloses integrated circuit devices with steganographic authentication.

Stoughton et al. U.S. Pat. No. 4922413 discloses method for concurrent execution of primitive operation by dynamically assigning operations based upon computational marked graph and availability of data using Petri-net.

Stork et al. U.S. Pub. No. 20030055811 discloses document controlled workflow system using Petri-net.

Lee et al. U.S. Pub. No. 20040015719 discloses intelligent security engine.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHIN-HON CHEN whose telephone number is (571)272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Shin-Hon Chen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2431

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